First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

"Follow Me"

http://www.mrwallpaper.com/view/park-flowers-1366x768/

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

May 10, 2015 10:00 am

Sixth Sunday of Easter

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn "Shout the Name of Christ Who Lives" 234 NCH** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Ivan Harner

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

****Please rise in body or spirit as you are able***

Announcements Ivan Harner

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

***Hymn "Touch The Earth Lightly" 569 NCH**

Focusing Prayer (Unison) Ivan Harner

Come, Holy Spirit, to lift us from empty routines to the surprising joy of your love. Loosen our tongues to praise you with sincere delight. Open our hearts to trust you as you lead us through times of difficulty. Calm our doubts and guide us through the journey of our lives. You have called us together for mutual support in a time of worship that unites our spirits. Encourage us to rejoice in this family of worshippers praising your Son and his teachings. Amen.

Anthem **"**Amazing Grace**"** FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

New Testament Readings John 20:1-3, 11-16
Hebrews 11:1-13 Ivan Harner

Hymn **"Jesus Loves Me"** **327 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* Rev. Dawn Swartz

Old Testament Reading Judges 4:11, 17-22 Rev. Dawn Swartz

Reflection It's Better for Me or The Essential Faith Rev. Dawn Swartz

***Hymn** **"We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed"** **540 NCH**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Rev. Dawn Swartz

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time.
Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version Rev. Dawn Swartz

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Breath of Life,
In whom we live and move and have our being,
Your presence fills all of Creation.
May justice and mercy reign,
In our lives and in our world.
Today may our bellies be full,
Our hearts warm,
And our fellowship open.
May we reconcile with the people we've hurt,
Just as we reconcile with the people who've hurt us.
Lead us not into a time of trial,
But deliver us from evil.
For wherever grace and community abide,
There you are with us;
We are not alone.
Blessed be.

– by Chance Hunter (Used under Creative Commons license)
http://www.timesandseasons.net/2011/the-lords-prayer-an-alternate-version

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RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Ivan Harner

We are people whom God has blessed. God has done marvelous things for us. How will we, who have been baptized by water and the Spirit, respond to God's generosity? Amen. - "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

Offertory Steve McGhee

***Doxology** **"Take My Gifts"** **562 NCH**

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

Prayer of Dedication *(Unison) Ivan Harner

Generous and loving God, we dedicate to your service the work of our hands, the earnings of our time and efforts, and our vision for the future. May faith sustain us as we offer our best to you in praise and thanksgiving and joyous dedication. We seek to work for the reign of your truth and extension of the friendship granted to us by Jesus Christ. Let our offering bear fruit in the lives of all who are helped by it. Amen. - "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"For the Beauty of the Earth"** **28 NCH**

***Benediction** Rev. Dawn Swartz

One: Friends of Christ, carry God's love into the world.
You have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
Many: **May the Holy Spirit inspire our words.**
May God's love in Christ empower our deeds. Amen.

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website: ***www.ypsiucc.com***

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: May 10th	Next Sunday: May 17th
Usher	Marty Kleino	Jamie Goldsmith
Preaching	Rev. Dawn Swartz	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Ivan Harner	Tad Wysor
Worship Set-up	Margaret Harner	Donna Eyster
Acolyte	Hunter Turner	Hunter/Desayre
Friendship Time	Anne Marie N-T	Barb Garland
Sunday School	Patty Sherwood	Tad Wysor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL SERVICE: A memorial service to celebrate the life of Glenn A Erickson will occur on Saturday, May 16 at First Baptist Church, 1070 Quarterline Rd., Muskegon, MI 49442. at 11AM. The family will be available at 10 AM until the service. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to First Baptist Church. Please share lunch with family and friends following the service.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsals are held on Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address': Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights***, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expires May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.